1:Nimuendajú E-5 (1941-1942) 1952
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PREFACE

In 1935 the late Snr. Curt Nimuendajú (who died on December 10, 1945, among the Tukuna Indians) began ethnographic researches on behalf of the Department of Anthropology. The work was financed mainly by the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of California, and in part by the Rockefeller Foundation and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. So far, three major monographs have appeared as a result of these investigations: The Eastern Timbira (University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. 41, Berkeley, 1946); The Apinayé (The Catholic University of America, Anthropological Series, No. 8, Washington, D.C., 1939); and The Sherente (Publications of the Frederick Webb Hodge Anniversary Publication Fund, Vol. 4, Los Angeles, 1942). In addition, there are a series of provisional reports antedating complete presentation of the facts, and some minor papers, notably Social Organization and Beliefs of the Botocudo of Eastern Brazil (Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, 2:93–115, 1946). These were translated by the editor from the author's German manuscripts, at times revised on details on the basis of years of correspondence between author and translator.

In 1941 and 1942, Nimuendajú, who had spent fifteen days among the Tukuna in 1929, paid them a second and a third visit of six and five months' duration, respectively; the present treatise embodies the results. However, during World War II a regulation of the Brazilian government prohibited the use of the German language in correspondence, so that Nimuendajú was obliged to write to me in Portuguese, and I to him in English. Since the law extended even to monographs, the paper herewith presented was likewise composed in Portuguese. Its translation was accordingly entrusted to Mr. William D. Hohenthal, who not only lived in Brazil when he was a boy and received part of his education there, but was attached to the Brazilian army as an infantry instructor on loan from the United States Army, 1945–1947, and is married to a Brazilian lady. As a graduate student in anthropology, he also understands the ethnographic technicalities that sometimes baffle a layman no matter how familiar he is with the language from which he translates. Apart from providing a most conscientious rendering of Nimuendajú's meaning, Mr. Hohenthal has taken endless pains in compiling a glossary of Brazilian terms and checking the identification of botanical and zoölogical species.

The present is the last major contribution of Nimuendajú in the editor's possession. Several lesser reports in German on the Northern Kayapó and some other groups are designed for publication in periodical journals.

ROBERT H. LOWIE

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